

States District Judge for the District of Rhode Island, Stephanie A. Gallagher, of Maryland, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland, and Mary M. Rowland, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, and Senate vote on confirmation of the nominations, at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Democratic Leader. **Pages S5177–78**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 53 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. EX. 236), Michael T. Liburdi, of Arizona, to be United States District Judge for the District of Arizona.

Pages S5153–59

By 68 yeas to 22 nays (Vote No. EX. 237), Peter D. Welte, of North Dakota, to be United States District Judge for the District of North Dakota.

Pages S5159–60

By 89 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. EX. 239), James Wesley Hendrix, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas.

Pages S5160–62

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 85 yeas to 5 nays (Vote No. EX. 238), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S5160**

By 54 yeas to 34 nays (Vote No. EX. 241), Sean D. Jordan, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas.

Pages S5163–78

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 54 yeas to 36 nays (Vote No. EX. 240), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S5162–63**

David L. Norquist, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Defense. **Page S5184**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination, be withdrawn. **Pages S5177–78**

Messages from the House: **Page S5193**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S5193**

Executive Communications: **Pages S5193–94**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S5194–95**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S5195**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5196–99**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S5199–S5200

Additional Statements: **Pages S5192–93**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S5202–03**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S5203**

Record Votes: Seventeen record votes were taken today. (Total—252) **Pages S5159–60, S5162–63, S5178–83**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:51 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 31, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5205.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATION

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Gen. John E. Hyten, USAF, for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Department of Defense, after the nominee, who was introduced by former Representative Heather Wilson, testified and answered question in his own behalf.

DIGITAL CURRENCIES AND BLOCKCHAIN

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine regulatory frameworks for digital currencies and blockchain, including S. 2243, to amend the Expedited Funds Availability Act to require that funds deposited be available for withdrawal in real-time, after receiving testimony from Rebecca M. Nelson, Specialist in International Trade and Finance, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Jeremy Allaire, Circle Internet Financial Limited, Boston, Massachusetts; and Mehrsa Baradaran, University of California School of Law, Irvine.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 2302, to amend title 23, United States Code, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways and highway safety construction programs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1992, to amend the FAST Act to repeal a rescission of funds; and

6 General Services Administration resolutions.

USMCA

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, after receiving testimony from Paula Barnett, Paula Elaine Barnett Jewelry, Brownsville, Oregon; Matt Blunt, American Automotive Policy Council, and Michael Wessel, United Steelworkers union staff

liaison to the Labor Advisory Committee, both of Washington, D.C.; James C. Collins, Jr., Corteva Agriscience, Wilmington, Delaware; Derek Leathers, Werner Enterprises, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska; and Thomas J. Vilsack, U.S. Dairy Export Council, Arlington, Virginia.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of John Leslie Carwile, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Latvia, Erin Elizabeth McKee, of California, to be Ambassador to the Independent State of Papua New Guinea, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Solomon Islands and Ambassador to the Republic of Vanuatu, Anthony F. Godfrey, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Serbia, and Herro Mustafa, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Bulgaria, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

U.S. SOUTHERN BORDER MIGRATION

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine unprecedented migration at the United States southern border, focusing on what is required to improve conditions, after receiving testimony from Mark Morgan, Acting Commissioner, Customs and Border Protection, and Jennifer L. Costello, Deputy Inspector General, both of the Department of Homeland Security.

FEDERAL HIRING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management concluded a hearing to examine solutions to improve Federal hiring, after receiving testimony from Yvonne D. Jones, Director, Strategic Issues, Government Accountability Office; Angela Bailey, Chief Human Capital Officer, Department of Homeland Security; and Daniel R. Sitterly, Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Human Resources and Administration/Operations, Security, and Preparedness.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Sharon Fast Gustafson, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, and Charlotte A. Burrows, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member, both of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

U.S. COPYRIGHT OFFICE OVERSIGHT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Intellectual Property concluded an oversight hearing to examine the United States Copyright Office, after receiving testimony from Karyn A. Temple, United States Register of Copyrights, Library of Congress.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 49 public bills, H.R. 4091–4139; and 6 resolutions, H. Res. 530–535 were introduced. **Pages H7479–81**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H7483–84**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 2528, to direct the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to carry out programs and activities to ensure that Federal science agencies and institutions of higher education receiving Federal research and development funding are fully engaging their entire talent pool, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–184).

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Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Raskin to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H7477**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Monsignor Stephen J. Rossetti, Catholic University of America, Washington, DC.

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Empowering Beneficiaries, Ensuring Access, and Strengthening Accountability Act of 2019: The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 3253, to provide for certain extensions with respect to the Medicaid program under title XIX of the Social Security Act. **Pages H7477–78**